

# Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia

Conservation & Wildlife Management (SA) Inc.

PO Box 188 Kent Town SA 5071

www.conservation-wildlife.asn.au



## THE C&WM NEWS

# **Annual General Meeting Wednesday 16th September**

7.00 pm at GAZA Sports & Community Club Corner of Main North East Rd and Wellington St Klemzig

## From the President

Hello all.

As you may know the constitution allows for a three year term as President. This coming AGM sees the end of that three year term as President for me. II would like to thank all of you for your support while I was doing this job. I hope that same support is extended to the new President.

Again, I am so pleased, not one of our members has been ill with the viru. I see South Australians have one of the best records in the world but are still getting extra conditions put upon us. Guess that's the normal now, however, I would urge all Coordinators and Team Leaders to do the SA Health Covid-19 Aware Professional Education Program and download the certificate to carry. I have a feeling this document along with the ones

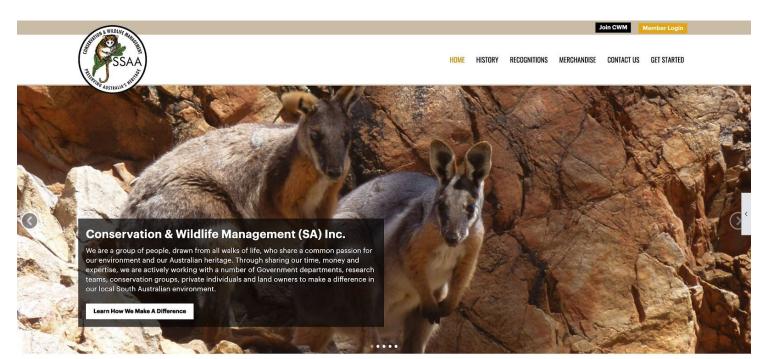
you already show will need to be viewed on all activities

There is not much more I can say only that 2021 looks like there will be some exciting opportunities. Can't say a lot but if the ones in the pipeline are approved, they will include deer and pig activities. For those that have asked, Kym H has moved on from his role as our coordinator for the South East Deer program and I have not heard if a new officer has been appointed for us to identify with yet.

Stay Safe and I will see you at the AGM 16 September.

Regards Chris Carroll

**CWM President** 



C&WM members are passionate about preserving Australia's natural heritage, and have been actively involved in controlling feral and pest animals since 1992. Through this role we have provided land managers with the assistance of accredited volunteers to help achieve sustainable land-use and improve protection of habitat and threatened species under their stewardship.





Though water can be found in Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges, as evidenced by echidna pic, there is no feed at all so this kangaroo starved to death - Pics by Kym McKenney

# **C&WM Activity Report Summary**

Brookfield CP: 23-29/05/2020

Activity Coordinator: Ali Wilkie

Members: 6

Animals taken: 5 feral goats

I-FRNP: 28-31/05/2020

Activity Coordinator: Gil Hartwig

Members: 4

Animals taken: 452 kangaroos, 6 rabbits

Southern Mallee - Karte CP: 15-17/06/2020

Malleefowl Adaptive Management Program - trail

camera monitoring

Members: 3

Animals taken: 1 feral goat

**Buckaringa CR: 09-12/07/2020**Activity Coordinator: Mark Purdie

Members: 4

Animals taken: 54 feral goats, 1 feral cat

**Bollards Lagoon: 18-26/07/2020**Activity Coordinator: Dennis Donovan

Members: 4

Animals taken: 8 feral camels, 2 feral donkeys

**Bimbowrie CP: 27-31/07/2020** Activity Coordinator: Phil Johns

Members: 8

Animals taken: 122 feral goats

**Boolcoomatta CR: 19-24/07/2020**Activity Coordinator: Phil Johns

Members: 4

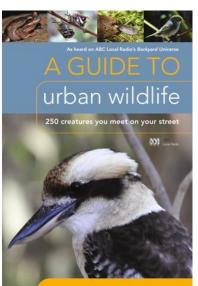
Animals taken: 29 feral goats, 6 rabbits

Southern Mallee - (Karte, Peebinga, Carcuma CPs +

surrounds): 12-17/08/2020

Members: 7

Animals taken: 5 feral goats



Many of us will have heard Professor Chris Daniels speak of the wildlife around us in his regular segment on ABC Radio 891.

Chris's detailed and well illustrated with colour photographs, "A Guide to Urban Wildlife- 250 creatures you meet on your street" is a book to dip into whenever you or a curious child come across something of interest in your backyard or local open space.

This well indexed text makes it easy to find reference to the bird, insect, fish or frog or gecko (or is it skink) you have just noticed, making the book's 300 pages a most effective resource for better understanding the creatures we live amongst, whether they be vertebrates or invertebrates, living on land or in our waters, both fresh and marine.

A book to expand our awareness of our place in, "The Web of Life," to quote the title of the biology text we studied in high school.

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Conservationists say feral deer are "cultivating" the growth of olive trees in the Adelaide Hills, Key points:

- Pest olive trees are spreading across the western slopes of the Mt Lofty Ranges
- Feral deer are attributed with the spread of seeds in the Waite Conservation Reserve
- Friends of Waite Conservation Park president Peter Bird said a count of olive pits across the 121-hectare reserve had found about 85,000 pits per hectare.

"They are pretty much all being spread by the fallow deer," he told ABC Radio Adelaide.

"They're not only harvesting the fruit ... they're actually engaging in olive cultivation."

He said remnant bush at the site, which included about 280 native plant species, was being significantly impacted by olive thickets that could "exclude other native species".

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Mr Bird said the feral deer ate the fruit in its thousands and vomited the cleaned seeds back out after they had "rattled round in their stomachs".

He said the deer scratched depressions into the earth first, effectively creating a seed bed for the pits to germinate in.

"Those craters catch water, which irrigate the seedlings, and then they poo on them," Mr Bird said.

"So they're harvesting the seeds, they're pre-treating them, covering them up, watering and fertilising them.

"They tell us that humans started cultivating olives about 6,000 years ago, but I suspect the fallow deer have been doing it a lot longer than that."

Mr Bird said feral foxes were also spreading the olive pits, along with European starlings, and – to a much lesser extent – native birds.

But it was the deer, he said, that were doing the "heavy lifting"

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European and Asian deer were introduced to Australia as game during the 19th century.

In 2019 the Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA estimated there was a record 10,000 animals across the state.

Escaped fallow deer in the Mount Lofty Ranges, increasingly spotted by bushwalkers, are a particular problem.

Last year the State Government introduced a new policy that required landholders to destroy all feral deer on their properties.

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Friends of Black Hill and Morialta president Liz Milner said olives trees had been "huge problems" for them, particularly at Amber Gully — a 46-hectare site where significant trees had become surrounded by thickets of the pest plant.

"We found those significant trees became so stressed by the olives taking away the nutrients and water, that with the increased heat we're experiencing each summer and the lower rainfall, we were actually starting to lose some of those trees," she said.

National Parks and Wildlife SA Regional Operations director Stuart Paul said olive trees were a longstanding issue for the Adelaide Hills, along with blackberries, broom, gorse, and other woody weed

It's a big job [to manage] and we're very grateful for the work that all of our volunteers do."

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# **CWM ACTIVITY PROGRAM 2020**

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